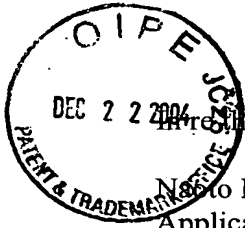


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re: Application of

Nobuo MATONO et al.

Application No.: 10/798,363

Filed: March 12, 2004

Group Art Unit: 2652

Docket No.: 118531

For: THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

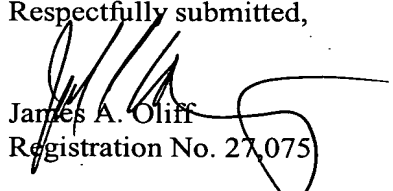
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. English language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1-2 are attached hereto.
- ☒ 3. A computer-generated English language translation of the following Japanese reference has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 1.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

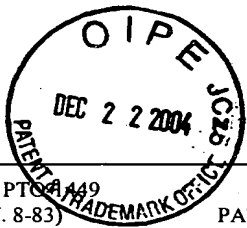
Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/vcj

Date: December 22, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. Box 19928  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320  
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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Sheet 1 of 1Form PTO/AIA 449  
(REV. 8-83)US Dept. of Commerce  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
118531APPLICATION NO.  
10/798,363

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANTS  
Naoto MATONO et al.FILING DATE  
March 12, 2004GROUP  
2652

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                   | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|
|  | 1 | JP 2002-092820 A w/abstr & transl | 03/29/2002 | JAPAN   |       |              |
|  | 2 | JP 64-048217 A w/abstract         | 02/22/1989 | JAPAN   |       |              |
|  |   |                                   |            |         |       |              |
|  |   |                                   |            |         |       |              |
|  |   |                                   |            |         |       |              |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: December 22, 2004